

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Water soluble associative polymers and compositions comprising them together with
5 alkali metal salts of carboxylic acid are disclosed. Methods comprise introducing into a
wellbore a fluid comprising such associative polymers and alkali metal salts of carboxylic
acid, e.g., cesium formate. Disclosed water soluble associative polymers have
functionality including at least sulfonate groups, carboxylate groups and hydrophobes
associative with one another in a saturated aqueous solution of an alkali metal salt of a
10 carboxylic acid. Water soluble associative polymers are formed as the polymerization
reaction product of reactants comprising an AMPS reactant, an alpha, beta-unsaturated
carbonyl reactant and a hydrophobe reactant selected from acrylic esters, methacrylic
esters and a mixture of any of them, having a -COOR moiety wherein R is a hydrophobe
which, as hydrophobe moieties of the resultant associative polymer, are associative with
15 one another in a saturated aqueous solution of an alkali metal salt of a carboxylic acid.